Calendar No. 559

97TH CONGRESS, 2d Session | SENATE | REPORT No. 97-394

NATIONAL FEDERATION OF MUSIC CLUBS

MAY 14 (legislative day, MAY 11), 1982.—Ordered to be printed

Mr. THURMOND, from the Committee on the Judiciary, submitted the following

REPORT

[To accompany S. 2317]

The Committee on the Judiciary, to which was referred the bill (S. 2317) to incorporate the National Federation of Music Clubs, having considered the same, reports favorably thereon with an amendment and recommends that the bill as amended do pass.

PURPOSE

The bill S. 2317 would grant a Federal charter to the National Federation of Music Clubs.

STATEMENT

The National Federation of Music Clubs was founded in Chicago in 1898 and was chartered under the laws of the State of Illinois during that year. The National Federation of Music Clubs has approximately 600,000 members today. One of the largest philanthropical musical organizations, the National Federation is composed of state federations, student and junior clubs, college and university music departments, and many individual professsional and amateur musicians and composers. It represents over 6,000 affiliated musical organizations.

The primary objective of the National Federation is the promotion of American music. As stated by the Federation, the purposes of the organization include:

> The support and encouragement of music education; fostering the performance of good music; sponsorship and promotion of the performing and creative American artists; increasing public knowledge and appreciation of the arts; promotion of musical activity in the Armed Forces; assistance since 1942 to veterans as they resume their musical careers, etc.

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The National Federation of Music Clubs is organized and operated solely for charitable, educational, and civic improvement purposes. Through the structure of the National Federation, thousands of dollars are given annually for awards to musical artists. Scholarships are also awarded to blind musical artists and to veterans. The Young Artist Awards program provides $5,000 scholarships for excellence in voice, piano, strings, and oratorio. Approximately 15,000 awards have been made to member organizations and the communications media in recognition of their efforts to promote American music. The American Society of Composers, Authors, and Publishers has presented cash awards to educational institutions, summer music festivals, and music clubs through the National Federation. Through its International Music Department, the National Federation provides leadership in promoting the fine arts internationally.

Aside from the many awards and scholarships given each year, the National Federation provides sponsorship and support for and supplies string instruments to string groups through its Crusade for Strings Program, including student string groups in the schools. Other projects include the promotion of dance, the music-in-hospitals program, and the sacred music program. During World War II, more than $106,000 was donated and 2.5 million articles of musical equipment were shipped to U.S. servicemen stationed in the United States and abroad. The National Federation has provided replacement parts for the string instruments of the Athens Symphony, among other charitable projects.

The National Federation is organized and operated as a nonpartisan and nonprofit organization. It is open for membership to all persons and groups interested in the fine arts and music appreciation and is not engaged in political activities. As a nonprofit organization, supported by annual membership dues and voluntary contributions, the National Federation maintains IRS No. 48–0629706 under section 501(c)(3) of Title 26, United States Code.

With such affiliated organizations as The American Symphony League, the Music Teachers National Association, the Piano Teachers Guild, and the National Association of Schools of Music, the National Federation of Music Clubs is national in scope and responsive to a national need. The Federation serves the national purpose of promoting American music throughout this country and the world by providing scholarships and opportunities for students and musical artists. Also, it coordinates the activities of its members and its member organizations.

Among the advisors to the National Federation and its various departments have been such well known musicians as John Tasker Howard, internationally-acclaimed soprano Beverly Sills, Douglas Moore, and Samuel Barber. National Federation of Music Clubs winners who have achieved international fame include Van Cliburn, Shirley Verrett, Donald Gramm, Martha Lipton, and Carol Glenn. Composers who have won National Federation prizes include Deems Taylor, Paul Creston, Peter Mennin, and Horatio Parker.

The purpose of this legislation is merely to recognize an existing State chartered organization. It does not expand any corporate rights or relieve any corporate responsibilities established by State charter. Moreover, this legislation specifically requires compliance with State laws governing the election of corporate officers and the responsibilities of the board of directors for the corporation. It also specifically requires compliance with State laws governing service of process.

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In order to assure responsible and appropriate conduct on the part of the corporation, the legislation prohibits certain corporate acts and establishes certain requirements for the corporation. The legislation prohibits the loan or transfer of corporate assets to officers, members, or other persons (except for expenses), lobbying or other political activity by the corporation or the issuance of stock or the payment of dividends. The legislation further prohibits the corporation from claiming congressional approval or Federal Government authority for any of its activities. The legislation required the corporation to keep certain records, to perfrom an annual audit and to report to Congress annually. Should the corporation engage in any prohibited activity or fail to perform any of the requirements established by this legislation, or if the corporation fails to maintain its tax exempt status, the Federal charter granted by this legislation will expire automatically as a matter of law.

In recognition of the merits of the organization, there is broad bipartisan support in the Senate for a Federal charter for the National Federation of Music Clubs. S. 2317 currently lists 45 cosponsors.

RECOMMENDATION

The Committee favorably recommends S. 2317 as amended to the Senate for its consideration.

REGULATORY IMPACT

In compliance with Rule 26.11(b) of the Standing Rules of the Senate, the Committee has concluded that this legislation does not create any new regulations with which the public must comply.

COST

The enactment of this legislation involves no direct additional expenditure to the Government. The Congressional Budget Office letter follows:

U.S. CONGRESS,
CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE,
Washington, D.C., May 14, 1982.

HON. STROM THURMOND,
Chairman, Committee on the Judiciary, U.S. Senate, Dirksen Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: Pursuant to Section 403 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, the Congressional Budget Office has reviewed S. 2317, a bill to recognize the organization known as the National Federation of Music Clubs, as ordered reported by the Senate Committee on the Judiciary, May 11, 1982.

Based on this review, it is expected that no significant cost to the government would be incurred as a result of enactment of this legislation.

Sincerely,

RAYMOND C. SCHEPPACH
(For Alice M. Rivlin, Director).

The following material was submitted to the Committee for its consideration of S. 2317:

BRIEF SUMMARY AND HIGHLIGHTS OF 83 YEARS OF THE NATIONAL FEDERATION OF MUSIC CLUBS

It would be impossible to list in this short space the accomplishments of 83 years in The National Federation of Music Clubs, but through this brief summary of the highlights of our work since 1898 we might give some idea of the magnitude of the organization's far reaching program.

The National Federation of Music Clubs, founded in 1898, in Chicago by Mrs. Theodore Thomas—wife of the Conductor of the Chicago Symphony Orchestra—and chartered under the laws of the State of Illinois that same year, has grown into the largest philanthropical music organization in the world. The 600,000 membership is composed of state federations in most of the states of the Union, consisting of professionals and amateurs, including choral, dance, and symphonic organizations, study groups, college and university music departments, composers, concert artists, Junior and Student active clubs, and most important the active senior music clubs in communities ranging from the lowliest hamlet to the largest city. There are approximately 6,000 organizations in state federations of the United States. We proudly list on our membership rolls affiliate organizations as: The American Symphony Orchestra League; American Music Center (which was founded by one of our Presidents, Mrs. Guy Gannett from Portland, Maine); Music Teachers National Association; Piano Teachers Guild, National Association of Schools of Music; Delta Omicron, Mu Phi Alpha, and Sigma Alpha Iota International Music Fraternities, Etc.

The National Music Council—of which the President of the National Federation is the First Vice President—(and which is chartered by the Congress of the United States) was founded by one of the Presidents of the National Federation of Music Clubs, Julia Fuqua Ober of Norfolk, Va. in 1940.

Since its founding 83 years ago the purposes of the organization have included the support and encouragement of music education; fostering the performance of good music; sponsorship and promotion of the performing and creative American artists; increasing public knowledge and appreciation of the arts; promotion of musical activity in the Armed Forces; assistance since 1942 to veterans as they resume their musical careers; etc., etc. Since the Federation was founded the promotion of American music, which we feel to be equal to any in the world, has been the cornerstone of this organization, and we have worked in an effort to keep music and the other arts on a par with the current emphasis on mechanical technology.

Toward achievement of its foremost and primary objective, the promotion of American music—the American composer—and the American performer, the National Federation gives thousands of dollars annually for awards and scholarships—including composition, the Young Artist Awards ($5,000 given to each of 5 winners, including man's voice, women's voice, piano, strings and oratorio. There are awards and scholarships to the blind, the veterans, etc., etc.

To further promote American music, February of each year is proclaimed American Music Month, during which time all organizations and the public are encouraged to support our American music and American artists. Approximately 15,000 awards have been given to member organizations, the radio, television, news media, etc. in recognition of their efforts to promote American music.

In recognition of this fine project ASCAP (American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers) make available through the NFMC award program each year: $3,000 in awards to educational institutions, $500 to summer music festivals and centers, and 14 awards (cash) to clubs featuring programs of works of American women composers; $1,000 is given annually to the group or individual most effectively promoting American music abroad.

Realizing the need for more string teachers and players, in support of our symphony orchestras, the NFMC places special emphasis on its crusade for strings program through: awards and scholarships in strings; sponsorship and support of string groups; supplying string instruments of educational purpose to those unable to afford them. Members work in an effort to make the crusade an aggressive action bringing to the attention of school boards the importance of string programs in the schools.

Through the NFMC audio-visual program the Federation exerts its influence upon the networks—television and radio—in an effort to inspire and encourage an appreciation for better music.

The NFMC feels that music is among the most important media for the promotion of international understanding and toward that objective the organization sponsors its International Music Relations Department. During World War II more than $106,000 was raised by the clubs for War Service, and 2½ million articles of musical equipment were shipped to our men stationed in the United States and foreign countries. Hospital ships and trains were supplied with phonographs and records, and our chaplain's kits were considered most valuable providing suitable music for any type of church service—often held under almost impossible conditions.

When the Athens, Greece Symphony pleaded for money to replace strings that had rusted on their instruments when they had been hidden in caves from the Nazis, it was NFMC who purchased and delivered $1,500 worth of replacement parts to the Greek Minister of Information. There were: a grand piano to the Athens Symphony, electromagnets for the organs of two Paris churches, etc., etc.

NFMC's scholarship program is one of its most important and extensive programs with hundreds of thousands of dollars given annually to the Nation's leading colleges and universities and summer music camps.

Among the many, many projects sponsored by the NFMC are: the dance department, working for the betterment and promotion of the dance; the music in hospitals program, whereby countless hours of service and dollars are given each year by our members to those who are ill, both mentally and physically; the sacred music program using its influence in an effort to raise the standards of church music; the legislative action department giving support to legislations pertaining to the advancement of music and the enrichment of our nation's cultural life.

Since 1924 when National Music Week—the first full week in May—was founded by Charles M. Tremaine and endorsed by President Calvin Coolidge, who served as Honorary Chairman, NFMC has supported this project. And—since 1958 the Federation has been the sole sponsor of the project. It is our feeling that if an effort is made to hear and enjoy music this one week of the year, people will continue to enjoy it the remaining 51 weeks of the year. Each year the

President of the United States gives a written endorsement of National Music Week, and this year was no exception with President Ronald Reagan giving an endorsement. Governors and Mayors, at our request issue proclamations throughout the U.S.

Among advisers to the American Music Department have been such well known musicians as: John Tasker Howard, Douglas Moore, Samuel Barber, etc. Adviser to the Opera Department presently is Beverly Sills. NFMC winners who have reached international fame are Van Cliburn, Shirley Verrett, Donald Gramm, Martha Lipton, Carol Glenn, etc. Composers who have won NFMC prizes include such greats as: Deems Taylor, Paul Creston, Peter Mennin, Horatio Parker, etc.

NFMC owns its headquarters in Indianapolis, Ind. which was completed and dedicated on October 19, 1980. The three members of the staff in the Headquarters Office are the only paid employees in the 600,000 member organization. All of the members, through the payment of a small amount of dues, pay for the privilege of working for the Federation without one cent of remuneration in the hopes that through their voluntary contributions these United States will be a better place in which to live.

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Calendar No. 560

97TH CONGRESS, 2d Session | SENATE | REPORT No. 97-395

AMERICAN COUNCIL OF LEARNED SOCIETIES

MAY 14 (legislative day, MAY 11), 1982.—Ordered to be printed

Mr. THURMOND, from the Committee on the Judiciary, submitted the following

REPORT

[To accompany H.R. 4769]

The Committee on the Judiciary, to which was referred the bill (H.R. 4769) to recognize the organization known as the American Council of Learned Societies, having considered the same, reports favorably thereon without amendment and recommends that the bill do pass.

PURPOSE

The bill H.R. 4769 would grant a Federal charter to the organization known as the American Council of Learned Societies.

STATEMENT

The American Council of Learned Societies (ACLS), founded in 1919, was incorporated in the District of Columbia in 1924, and has its headquarters in New York, New York.

The ACLS was established originally in response to the need of the United States for a spokesman within the International Union of Academies, and it has represented the Nation in that body for 60 years. The ACLS is a federation of professional and honorary associations with a constituency of 43 learned societies having an aggregate membership of approximately 250,000 scholars. A list of constituent societies is reprinted in the appendix below. The stated purpose of this organization is the advancement of humanistic studies in all fields of learning, and the maintenance and strengthening of relations among all national societies devoted to such studies.

The Council and its activities are supported by income from endowment, dues of constituent societies, subscriptions of universities, colleges, research libraries, and corporations that are associates of the ACLS, grants from philanthropic foundations, government grants and contracts, and private gifts. Its activities include the provision of fel-

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lowships and grants for studies of the humanities, programs for the improvement of American studies abroad, special projects for the improvement of American research into and promotion of area studies, the administration of international exchange programs, the promotion of international communication among scholars of the humanities, and cooperation with agencies of the U.S. Government on projects involving the humanities.

The American Council of Learned Societies maintains a State charter, operates in a nondiscriminatory manner and operates nationally and internationally only as a nonprofit corporation concerned with fields of study of importance to America.

While the international role of the ACLS in the area of the humanities is unique, there is ample precedent for extending a Federal charter to this organization. Congress granted a charter to the National Academy of Sciences on March 3, 1863, see 36 U.S.C. 251 (1976). Like the ACLS, the National Academy of Sciences is a federation of organizations dedicated to a particular field of study. Like the ACLS, the National Academy is a private organization which has represented the United States in international forums. It is especially appropriate in the light of this precedent that Congress recognizes the ACLS for its many years of service by granting it a Federal charter.

The purpose of this legislation is merely to recognize an existing State-chartered organization. It does not expand any corporate rights or relieve any corporate responsibilities established by State charter. Moreover, this legislation specifically requires compliance with State laws governing the election of corporate officers and the responsibilities of the board of directors for the corporation. It also specifically requires compliance with State laws governing service of process.

In order to assure responsible and appropriate conduct on the part of the corporation, the legislation prohibits certain corporate acts and establishes certain requirements for the corporation. The legislation prohibits the loan or transfer of corporate assets to officers, members, or other persons (except for expenses), lobbying or other political activity by the corporation or the issuance of stock or the payment of dividends. The legislation further prohibits the corporation from claiming congressional approval or Federal Government authority for any of its activities. The legislation requires the corporation to keep certain records, to perform an annual audit and to report to Congress annually. Should the corporation engage in any prohibited activity or fail to perform any of the requirements established by this legislation, or if the corporation fails to maintain its tax exempt status, the Federal charter granted by this legislation will expire automatically as a matter of law.

The bill H.R. 4769 passed the House of Representatives on October 26, 1981, and was referred to the Senate Committee on the Judiciary.

Recommendation

The committee favorably recommends H.R. 4679 to the Senate for its consideration.

Cost

The bill merely provides for granting of a charter to a nonprofit corporation and its enactment would result in no added cost to the Government other than to examine the annual audit required by law.

The following estimate was received from the Director of the Congressional Budget Office:

U.S. CONGRESS,
CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE,
Washington, D.C., May 14, 1982.

Hon. STROM THURMOND,
Chairman, Committee on the Judicary, U.S. Senate, Dirksen Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: Pursuant to section 403 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, the Congressional Budget Office has reviewed H.R. 4769, an act to recognize the organization known as the American Council of Learned Societies, as ordered reported by the Senate Committee on the Judiciary, May 11, 1982.

Based on this review, it is expected that no significant cost to the Government would be incurred as a result of enactment of this legislation.

Sincerely,

RAYMOND C. SCHEPPACH
(For Alice M. Rivlin, Director).

BUDGET

The bill merely provides for the incorporation of a private nonprofit corporation. This bill does not involve new budget authority nor does it require new or increased tax expenditures.

INFLATIONARY IMPACT

This legislation will have no inflationary impact on prices and costs in the operation of the national economy.

REGULATORY IMPACT

In compliance with Rule 26.11(b) of the Standing Rules of the Senate, the Committee has concluded that this legislation does not create any new regulations with which the public must comply.

CHANGES IN EXISTING LAW

Changes in existing law made by the bill are shown as follows (existing law proposed to be omitted is enclosed in black brackets, new matter is printed in italic, existing law in which no change is proposed is shown in roman):

* * * * * * *

Section 1 of the Act entitled "An Act to provide for an audit of accounts of private corporations established under Federal law," approved August 30, 1964, as amended (Public Law 88–504, § 1, Aug. 30, 1964, 78 Stat. 635; 36 U.S.C. 1101)

* * * * * * *

The term "private corporations established under Federal law as used in this Act means the following organization:

* * * * * * *

"(56) American Council of Learned Societies".

Appendix—Constituent Societies

American Philosophical Society, 1743.
American Academy of Arts and Sciences, 1780.
American Antiquarian Society, 1812.
American Oriental Society, 1842.
American Numismatic Society, 1858.
American Philological Association, 1869.
Archaeological Institute of America, 1879.
Society of Biblical Literature, 1880.
Modern Language Association of America, 1883.
American Historical Association, 1884.
American Economic Association, 1885.
American Folklore Society, 1888.
American Dialect Society, 1889.
American Psychological Association, 1892.
Association of American Law Schools, 1900.
American Philosophical Association, 1901.
American Anthropological Association, 1902.
American Political Science Association, 1903.
Bibliographical Society of America, 1904.
Association of American Geographers, 1904.
Hispanic Society of America, 1904.
American Sociological Association, 1905.
American Society of International Law, 1906.
Organization of American Historians, 1907.
American Academy of Religion, 1909.
College Art Association of American, 1912.
History of Science Society, 1924.
Linguistic Society of America, 1924.
Medieval Academy of America, 1925.
American Musicological Society, 1934.
Society of Architectural Historians, 1940.
Economic History Association, 1940.
Association for Asian Studies, 1941.
American Society for Aesthetics, 1942.
Metaphysical Society of America, 1950.
American Studies Association, 1950.
Renaissance Society of America, 1954.
Society for Ethnomusicology, 1955.
American Society for Legal History, 1956.
American Society for Theatre Research, 1956.
Society for the History of Technology, 1958.
American Comparative Literature Association, 1960.
American Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies, 1969.

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Calendar No. 580

97TH CONGRESS
2d Session

SENATE

REPORT
No. 97-409

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF STATE DIRECTORS OF VETERANS AFFAIRS, INC.

MAY 20 (legislative day, MAY 11), 1982.—Ordered to be printed

Mr. THURMOND, from the Committee on the Judiciary, submitted the following

REPORT

[To accompany S. 2215]

The Committee on the Judiciary, to which was referred the bill (S. 2215) to recognize the organization known as the National Association of State Directors of Veterans Affairs, Inc., having considered the same, reports favorably thereon without amendment and recommends that the bill do pass.

PURPOSE

The bill, S. 2215, would grant a Federal charter to the organization known as the National Association of State Directors of Veterans Affairs, Inc.

STATEMENT

The National Association of State Directors of Veterans Affairs, Inc., founded in 1946, was incorporated in the District of Columbia on March 12, 1973. The National Association is composed of the chief administrative officers of those agencies of 48 States, 4 territories, and the District of Columbia concerned with veterans entitlement and benefit programs and veterans affairs in general. There are also 300 nonvoting associate members. These associate members are the subordinate employees of the various agencies and members of veterans service organizations recognized by the Veterans' Administration for accreditation as representatives in connection with VA benefit claims.

The National Association of State Directors of Veterans Affairs, Inc., is organized exclusively for charitable and educational purposes and operates in a nondiscriminatory manner. As part of its declaration of purpose, the National Association has included the following statement:

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> The purposes of the Association are to provide a medium for the exchange of ideas and information; to facilitate reciprocal State Services; to foster better understanding of the national veterans' problems; to secure uniformity and equality of service in all the States and Territories; to maintain an interest in all veterans' legislation.
>
> * * * * *
>
> The Association recognizes the great worth and merit of all existing congressionally chartered veterans' organizations, and asserts a willingness to cooperate with such organizations. It further declares a deep and abiding interest in the welfare of all veterans, regardless of organizational affiliation or the lack of it.

The National Association advises veterans of available benefits and services, coordinates the activities and purposes of the several State and territorial agencies affecting veterans, serves as the liaison between the State Governors and concerned officials on the Federal level, and maintains a close contact with all branches of the armed services. These services which the National Association provides are available to veterans and their families regardless of their affiliation with special interest groups, their time or branch of service, their background, or their experience in the armed services.

Organized as a nonprofit service organization, the National Association is supported entirely by annual membership dues and expends funds for its annual meetings, for those expenses necessary in assisting veterans and their families in processing claims, and for disseminating information regarding benefit programs.

National in scope due to its broad-based membership, the National Association of State Directors of Veterans Affairs, Inc., is the only organization representing the various State and territorial veterans affairs agencies. By serving a vital, national need in its role as liaison between the Federal structure of services and entitlements for veterans and the various State and territorial structures of resources, the National Association insures the fair and equitable treatment of veterans throughout the United States and its territories.

The purpose of this legislation is merely to recognize an existing organization chartered by the District of Columbia. It does not expand any corporate rights or relieve any corporate responsibilities established by the District's charter. Moreover, this legislation specifically requires compliance with the State/District laws governing the election of corporate officers and the responsibilities of the board of directors for the corporation. It also specifically requires compliance with existing State and District laws governing service of process.

In order to assure responsible and appropriate conduct on the part of the corporation, the legislation prohibits certain corporate acts and establishes certain requirements for the corporation. The legislation prohibits the loan or transfer of corporate assets to officers, members, or other persons (except for expenses), lobbying or other political activity by the corporation or the issuance of stock or the payment of dividends. The legislation further prohibits the corporation from claiming congressional approval or Federal Government authority for any of its activities. The legislation requires the corporation to

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keep certain records, to perform an annual audit and to report to Congress annually. Should the corporation engage in any prohibited activity or fail to perform any of the requirements established by this legislation, or if the corporation fails to maintain its tax exempt status, the Federal charter granted by this legislation will expire automatically as a matter of law.

In recognition of the merits of the organization, there is broad bipartisan support in the Senate for a Federal charter for the National Association of State Directors of Veterans Affairs, Inc. S. 2215 currently has 55 cosponsors.

RECOMMENDATION

The committee favorably recommends S. 2215 to the Senate for its consideration.

REGULATORY IMPACT

In compliance with rule 26.11(b) of the Standing Rules of the Senate, the committee has concluded that this legislation does not create any new regulations with which the public must comply.

COST

The enactment of this legislation involves no direct additional expenditure to the Government. See Congressional Budget Office letter which follows:

CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE,
U.S. CONGRESS,
Washington, D.C., May 14, 1982.

Hon. STROM THURMOND,
Chairman, Committee on the Judiciary,
U.S. Senate, Washington, D.C.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: Pursuant to section 403 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, the Congressional Budget Office has reviewed S. 2215, a bill to recognize the organization known as the National Association of State Directors of Veterans Affairs, Inc., as ordered reported by the Senate Committee on the Judiciary, May 11, 1982.

Based on this review, it is expected that no significant cost to the government would be incurred as a result of enactment of this legislation.

Sincerely,

RAYMOND C. SCHEPPACH
(For Alice M. Rivlin, Director).

The following material was submitted to the committee for its consideration of S. 2215:

THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF
STATE DIRECTORS OF VETERANS AFFAIRS, INC.,
Washington, D.C., January 29, 1982.

STATEMENT IN SUPPORT OF CONGRESSIONAL CHARTERING OF NASDVA

The National Association of State Directors of Veterans Affairs, (NASDVA) was founded in the fall of 1946, and incorporated in the

District of Columbia on March 12, 1973. The regular membership of the organization is composed of the directors or chief administrative officers of those agencies of the several States, territories, and the District of Columbia concerned with veterans entitlement and benefit programs and veterans affairs in general. These directors are normally appointed by the Governors of the States and the chief executives of the territories and the District of Columbia. The organization also includes as nonvoting associate members, the subordinate employees of the State, territory, and District of Columbia agencies and members of veterans service organizations recognized by the Veterans' Administration for accreditation as representatives in connection with claims for VA benefits.

The NASDVA had its inception at a conference of representatives of most of the States, sponsored by the U.S. Army Air Corps at Mitchell Field, Long Island, N.Y. in early 1945. A few months later, a similar meeting was held in Washington, D.C. This meeting was called by Gen. Graves B. Erskine, head of the newly formed U.S. Retraining and Reemployment Administration. Practically all the States were represented, consistent with a directory and summary of State veterans programs, published in 1945 by the Council of State Governments and encouraging each State to provide services to veterans returning from World War II.

Meeting in Washington in the fall of 1946, again under sponsorship of General Erskine, the NASDVA was formed by the State directors. Homer G. Bradney, the administrator of the Illinois Veterans Commission and a distinguished representative of, and worker for, veterans interests in that State was elected chairman of the organization and a call was issued for the first national convention to be held at the Morrison Hotel in Chicago, Ill., on June 21 and 22, 1947. At the Washington organizational conference, the following declaration of purposes was adopted:

> The purposes of the Association are to provide a medium for the exchange of ideas and information; to facilitate reciprocal State Services; to foster better understanding of the national veterans' problems; to secure uniformity and equality of service in all the States and territories; to maintain an interest in all veterans' legislation.
>
> The Association recognizes the great worth and merit of all existing congressionally chartered veterans' organizations, and asserts a willingness to cooperate with such organizations. It further declares a deep and abiding interest in the welfare of all veterans, regardless of organizational affiliation or the lack of it.

The first national convention held in Chicago, Ill., June 21 and 22, 1947, was attended by the State directors of 23 States. At this convention it was decided to meet in Washington, D.C., again at the same time as the next rehabilitation conference of the American Legion to complete arrangements for the next national convention. This practice, alternating from year to year between the Washington conferences of the American Legion and the Veterans of Foreign Wars, has been maintained ever since. These Washington meetings have provided a

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unique and valuable medium for the exchange of views between the officials charged with responsibility for administering veterans programs at Federal and State levels in the legislative and executive areas. At both the annual national convention and the Washington conference, distinguished and high ranking officials of the Government and the service organizations speak to the delegates. Among those speaking before early meetings of NASDVA were Harold Russell the organizer of AMETS, Col. Louis Johnson, then chairman of the West Virginia Department of Veterans Affairs, and formerly Secretary of Defense, under President Truman. At the seventh annual convention in Ardmore, Okla., in 1953, no less than 15 key Veterans' Administration officials addressed the gathering.

The National Association of State Directors of Veterans Affairs is the only organization representing the directors and chiefs of the official veterans service agencies of the States, territories and the District of Columbia. The association currently includes the directors or chiefs of all States which have veterans affairs agencies and the directors or chiefs of Guam, American Samoa, Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, and the District of Columbia. The association is a vital coordinating and educational facility serving those agencies which fill the critical role of liaison between the Federal structure of veterans services and entitlements and the considerable resources of the States devoted to serving the Nation's veterans and their families.

Timely and constructive dialog with the Federal agencies and officials concerned with veterans affairs is maintained through the Washington Liaison Office of the NASDVA, currently headed by A. Leo Anderson, chief of the District of Columbia Office of Veterans Affairs, national Commander of AMVETS in 1976–77, past national president of NASDVA, and national chairman of the Past National Commanders Organization in 1979, 1980, and 1981.

There are approximately 300 associate members (those other than directors) spread across the several States, territories, and the District of Columbia.

Addressing the criteria of the 91st Congress, the following is submitted:

1. The NASDVA is chartered by the District of Columbia, under charter dated March 12, 1973. The organization was founded at the behest of the Federal Retraining and Reemployment Administrator, Gen. Graves B. Erskine, in 1946, and has operated continuously since in the interest of U.S. war veterans by serving the State agencies of veterans affairs.

2. The NASDVA is the only organization representing the State veterans affairs agencies. Since its function is to coordinate the activities and purposes of the several State and territorial agencies and to serve as liaison between the Governors and the concerned officials on the Federal level, chartering by Congress is the only appropriate form of incorporation. A congressional charter would lend strength and credibility to the name of the organization, giving deserving national recognition to the only organization representing the chiefs of the veterans affairs programs of the States and territories. The services provided by the members of NASDVA are available to veterans and their families without regard to affiliation with any veterans organization. Unlike most other veterans service organizations, NASDVA is com-

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posed only of those professionally concerned with veterans programs at the State level. Consequently membership in the association by the recipients of the services is ordinarily inappropriate. The current policy of President Reagan of revitalizing the role of States in the administration of governmental functions and reducing the role of the Federal Government argues even more forcefully for recognition of NASDVA.

3. Past actions of NASDVA have demonstrated that it operates wholly for charitable, educational, and patriotic purposes. It has demonstrated over the years that an organization of this kind is necessary to serve as a vital link in the efforts of the several States and territories in serving veterans.

4. That the NASDVA is completely nonpartisan can readily be discerned from even a partial reference to the distinguished representatives of both political parties who have been publicly honored with its coveted 'Man of the Year Award."

5. The national scope of NASDVA is self-evident in the very character of its membership, currently consisting of representatives from 48 States, 4 territories, and the District of Columbia. No other organization exists which is performing the unique function of NASDVA in coordinating the efforts and policies of the State and territorial veterans affairs agencies. Its annual meetings in the spring and fall provide the most complete and thorough exchange of information and views of those professionally concerned with veterans affairs. A function which no other organization provides.

A. LEO ANDERSON,
Past National President,
Washington Liaison Officer.

DAVID J. PASSAMANECK,
Lieutenant Colonel, U.S. Army (Retired)
General Counsel.

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